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Question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas)

Letter dated 3 January 2006 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Argentina to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of the press release issued on 3 January 2006 by the Government of the Argentine Republic, on the occasion of another anniversary of the illegitimate occupation of the Malvinas Islands by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex distributed as a document of the General Assembly under agenda item 21.

(*Signed*) Alberto **D'Alotto**
Minister
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

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Annex to the letter dated 3 January 2006 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Argentina to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On 3 January 1833, British forces occupied the Malvinas Islands, expelling their inhabitants and the Argentine authorities legitimately established there. The act of force of 1833 was immediately protested and was never consented to by the Argentine Republic.

Today, 173 years after that illegitimate occupation which still continues, the Argentine people and the Government reaffirm the imprescriptible sovereignty rights of the Argentine Republic over the Malvinas, South Georgia and South Sandwich islands and the surrounding maritime areas, which are an integral part of Argentine national territory.

Likewise, they recall the permanent and unrelinquishable objective, enshrined in the National Constitution, of recovering the full exercise of sovereignty over the above-mentioned territories and maritime areas through peaceful means for the settlement of disputes in accordance with international law and respecting the way of life and the interests of the inhabitants of the Malvinas Islands. This permanent objective is a State policy and responds to a collective desire of the Argentine people.

The Argentine Government reiterates the need to carry out the numerous resolutions of the United Nations and declarations of the Organization of American States, which urge the Governments of the Argentine Republic and of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to resume bilateral negotiations with a view to finding as soon as possible a just, peaceful and lasting solution to the dispute over sovereignty.

In that regard, the Argentine Government reaffirms its permanent readiness to resume those negotiations with immediate effect and calls on the British Government to show, without further delay, the same readiness to comply with the obligation to resume negotiations over sovereignty, as stated in the declarations of the international community.